

Des News
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BARNEYS CANYON

Kennecott wins approval from state to expand gold-mining operations

By Marjorie Cortez
Deseret News staff writer

Despite the objections of environmentalists, Kennecott Corp. may expand gold-mining operations at Barneys Canyon Mine.

Following a 2½ hour hearing Wednesday, the state Board of Oil, Gas and Mining granted variances to the mine's permit regarding reclamation and management of waste material extracted from the mine.

David Hodson, general manager of the gold mine, said the expansion will provide 40 additional jobs and boost the mine's contributions to the state economy to \$21 million annually.

Barneys Canyon Mine is located 25 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, north of Kennecott's Bingham Canyon Copper mine in the Oquirrh Mountains.

The mine produces about 100,000 ounces of gold a year and employs 140 people. Hodson said the mine contributes approximately \$18 million to the state's economy annually, including \$4.5 million in payroll.

Hodson said unless the board granted the variances, Kennecott would have to disturb more land to

extract the gold ore. The mine will reclaim as much of the mined land as possible, but it is not feasible to fully revegetate steep, rock formations in the mined area.

But environmentalists argued granting variances would increase the prospects of environmental damage. "Kennecott is asking for a variance for damage that cannot be completely restored," said Scott Endicott, a member of the Sierra Club.

David W. Tundermann, an attorney representing Kennecott, said 716 acres of land have been disturbed by mining activity since the mine opened in 1989. **Of that, 650 acres have been reclaimed to original use, wildlife habitat.**

Since then, Kennecott has discovered additional gold reserves in the Melco Pit and the South Barneys Canyon, which it plans to extract.

"We have agreed to work with DOGM to replace to the highest degree possible vegetation on those reposed slopes," Hodson said. Hodson said mine is located on property owned by Kennecott and is not visible to the "general population of the Salt Lake Valley."

Hodson said the board should

approve the variances because the Barneys Canyon Mine is a significant employer and makes significant contributions to the state economy. Further, the variances would allow Kennecott to disturb less land, yet enable the company to operate a safe, efficient mine.

Hodson said the variances requested by Kennecott were granted in the mine's 1989 permit and the new request was simply an extension of the original variance.

John Paul Williams, an environmental researcher, told the board granting the variance would send the wrong message to the division staff. Williams quoted letters indicating the division staff had argued against the variance for five months.

Yet, the division "reluctantly agreed" to the variance because of financial concerns to Kennecott, Williams said.

"Does the division make the decisions or does Kennecott? By granting the variance, Kennecott makes the regulations, not the division," Williams said.

Dianne Nielson, director of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, said the agency recommended that the board approve the variances.

GE-Huntsman wins awards at 2 plants

Two of Huntsman Chemical Corp.'s joint-venture manufacturing facilities with General Electric Co. have met all requirements to receive the International Organization for Standardization quality registration.

The General Electric-Huntsman sites in Selkirk, N.Y., and Bay St. Louis, Miss., which produce plastic raw materials for use in manufacturing appliances, automobile parts, furniture, building and construction material and office equipment, received the awards

Procedure for filing airline claims has been simplified, lawyer says

By Roger Pusey
Deseret News staff writer

Filing a claim for reimbursement from a settlement of an antitrust lawsuit against nine major airlines can be much simpler than originally thought, according to Mark Pestronk, a Washington, D.C., travel attorney who attended every court session that led to the settlement.

Speaking at Little America during a free seminar sponsored by Murdock Travel and designed to answer all questions about the settlement, Pestronk said the filing procedures have been simplified as much as possible to ensure that

each person or company will receive.

Who is eligible?

Passengers who were not reimbursed, and corporations, partnerships or other business entities that purchased tickets or reimbursed passengers. It excludes corporations whose travel is directly or identifiably reimbursed by clients or a government.

How can claims be simplified?

If a claim is more than \$2,500, use Form C and insert the purchase amounts for the travel for each six-month period and mail it.

To document a claim, first prepare and retain a summary com-

Salt Lake now enjoys and pointing out that her airline years carving out spe-w-priced routes that could ed by competition from st.

Miller, director of airports ty, agreed. On a more pro- he said he didn't know could find gate room for st or any other new airline airport is at full capacity. told commissioners they ove away from trying to airlines to Utah and focus ention on improving air or currently underserved ities throughout the state. ommissioner Robert l spoke against rescinding ation to Southwest, saying be very concerned about apt to limit competition. harter of the Utah Air ommission is to promote ion . . . stronger service at ble price. I would not should imply that we have ir) service we need . . . and ur posture that we want ur."

man Ted Wilson said he elieve the commission's requires it to pursue "un-competition" but agreed it ult question and a fair one. He said the commis-ecutive committee would it further and would make endation at the January

if the commission could ally rescind its invitation to st, Wilson said he doubted mission could tell South-ou're not welcome here," it could simply choose to further action to pursue it. ould be a non-action, but a nt one," he said.

ion Center.

ers are John A. Smith, Select Design; Don Harwell, ent-Well and DonJer Mar-Betty Massey, management Leshia Lee-Dixon, Legal er's Office; Brenda Daiz, e Childcare; and Lenoris irector of Utah Opportu-ustrialization Center.